PATENT Docket No.: P6D2-US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT

In the application of: Eldridge et al.

Application No.: 09/846,490

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

For:

A Method Of Making A Contact Structure

With A Distinctly Formed Tip Structure

Examiner: C. Arbes

Group Art Unit: 3729

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Following submission of an Amendment mailed January 10, 2003, please further amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims so that pending claims 44-46, 49, and 54 read as follows:

44. (Amended) A method comprising:

fabricating a tip structure on a sacrificial substrate; joining said tip structure to a contact structure; and releasing said tip structure from said sacrificial substrate.

45. (Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said step of fabricating a plurality of tip materials comprises depositing tip material in a plurality of openings in a masking material formed on said sacrificial substrate.

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46. (Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said step of fabricating a plurality of tip materials comprises:

depositing first material on said sacrificial substrate; depositing a masking material on said first material; patterning openings in said masking material; and depositing tip material into said openings.

49. (Amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising forming said contact structures on a substrate.

54. (Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said contact structures are elongate, and said step of joining said tip structures to said contact structures comprises joining said tip structures to free ends of said contact structures.

Please add new claim 55 as follows:

55. (New) The method claim 44 further comprising:

fabricating a plurality of said tip structures on said sacrificial substrate; joining said plurality of tip structures to a plurality of said contact structures; and releasing said plurality of tip structures from said sacrificial substrate.